THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) There is no such proposal.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

CGHS beneficiaries registered with CGHS dispensaries

33. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of CGHS beneficiaries registered with each CGHS dispensary in Delhi and outside Delhi from 1st January, 2001 to 31st October, 2002;

(b) the areas covered by each CGHS dispensary under modern system of medicine;

(c) the details of the monthly average attendance of beneficiaries at CGHS dispensaries/units of ISM & H during this period; and

(d) the names of CGHS dispensaries/units of Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic and Unani System of Medicines separately having highest number of monthly attendance of beneficiaries treated per day during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Use of Nimesulide

34. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2670 given in the Rajya Sabha on 12th August, 2002 and state;

(a) whether the Nimesulide medicine prescribed for the treatment of fever and pain relief has been reported to have serious complications in children;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the medicine has been withdrawn in many countries and its marketing banned;

(d) whether Government propose to take similar action in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Nimesulide, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID), is reported to be used in about 50 countries including India and is indicated for acute pain/inflammation and fever.

In March 2002, the National Agency for medicines in Finland decided to suspend the distribution of Nimesulide, while keeping its market authorisation in force as undesirable effects on liver were reported. Review by Finland agency is underway. The use of Nimesulide was also temporarily suspended in Spain and Turkey. The EMEA (European Medicinal Evaluation Agency) has started the review of Nimesulide.

(d) and (e) As a part of ongoing review an exercise is being undertaken by expert committee constituted by Drugs Technical Advisory Board to deliberate on the issues concerning the safety of Nimesulide. As regard to the use of Nimesulide in children the expert committee was of the view that immediate opinion of at least 20 well known paediatricians across the country may be obtained alongwith the information available from ADR centres. After gathering all relevant information the expert committee will examine the matter in detail and give its recommendations.

Regulatory standards on medical devices

35. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan of his Ministry to bring in regulatory standards on the medical devices manufactured by various manufacturers in the country;